Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-30 (canceled)

31. (*New*) A method of treating a cardiovascular disease in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a 4-1BB antagonist, wherein the cardiovascular disease is selected from the group consisting of chronic heart failure, post-pump syndrome, ischemia/reperfusion injury, non-ischemic systemic hypertension, arythmogenic valvular disease, ischemic valvular disease, atherosclerosis, arteriosclerosis, peripheral vascular disease, coronary artery disease, stroke, transient ischemic attack, myocardial infarction, aneurysm, arteritis, angina, embolism, platelet-associated ischemic disorders, restenosis, mitral and/or tricuspid regurgitation, mitral stenosis, silent myocardial ischemia, Raynaud's phenomena, thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, thrombotic microangiopathies, vasculitis, veno-occulsive disease, giant cell arteritis, Wegener's granulomatosis, Schoenlein-Henoch purpura, and cardiovascular disease arising from a bacterial periodontal infection.

32. (*New*) The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of: a soluble 4-1BB; an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L; and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

33. (*New*) The method of Claim 32, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a soluble 4-1BB, and further wherein the soluble 4-1BB is an Fc fusion protein.

34. (*New*) The method of Claim 32, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L or an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

35. (*New*) The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

36. (*New*) The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a human antibody.

37. (*New*) The method of Claim 36, wherein the antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

38. (*New*) The method of Claim 34, wherein the cardiovascular disease is chronic heart failure.

39. *(New)* The method of Claim 34, wherein the cardiovascular disease is myocardial infarction.

40. *(New)* The method of Claim 34, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.

41. *(New)* The method of Claim 32, wherein the antibody is a single-chain antibody.

42. *(New)* The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered intravenously or by subcutaneous injection.

43. *(New)* The method of Claim 31, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered in combination with one or more compounds selected from the group consisting of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory cytokines; chemotherapeutics; lipid-lowering drugs; blood pressure-regulating drugs; angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors; antibiotics; corticosteroids; and peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor ligands.

44. *(New)* The method of Claim 31, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the 4-1BB antagonist is an amount sufficient to induce a reduction in ischemic cardiomyopathy in the subject.

45. *(New)* A method of treating a subject suffering from chronic heart failure comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a 4-1BB-L antagonist comprising an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L, wherein said antibody is selected from the group consisting of a human antibody and a humanized monoclonal antibody.

46. *(New)* A method for reducing chronic cardiotoxicity caused by a chemotherapeutic agent in a subject who has received the chemotherapeutic agent, comprising administering to the subject a 4-1BB antagonist in an amount sufficient to reduce the cardiotoxicity.

47. *(New)* The method according to Claim 46, wherein the cardiotoxicity is selected from the group consisting of arrythmia, myocarditis, pericarditis, myocardial infarction and cardiomyopathy.

48. *(New)* The method according to Claim 46, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is an anthracycline drug that is selected from the group consisting of doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, idarubicin and mitroxantrone.

49. *(New)* The method according to Claim 48, wherein the anthracycline drug is doxorubicin.

50. *(New)* The method according to Claim 46, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of a soluble 4-1BB protein, an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

51. *(New)* The method of Claim 50, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is soluble 4-1BB, and further wherein said soluble 4-1BB is an Fc fusion protein.

52. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the subject is a cancer patient.

53. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the chemotherapeutic agent is selected from the group consisting of amsacrine, busulfan, cisplatin, cyclophosphamide, fluorouracil, Herceptin®, ifosfamide, an interferon, interleukin-2, mitomycin, paclitaxel, vinblastine, vincristine and capecitabine.

54. *(New)* The method of Claim 46, wherein the therapeutically effective amount of the 4-1BB antagonist is an amount sufficient to reduce apoptosis in cardiac tissue of the subject.

55. *(New)* A method for reducing chronic cardiotoxicity caused by an anthracycline drug in a patient who has received the anthracycline drug, comprising administering to said patient a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L in an amount sufficient to reduce the cardiotoxicity.

56. *(New)* A method for treating cancer in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to the subject an anthracycline drug in combination with a 4-1BB antagonist, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is administered in an amount sufficient to reduce a cardiotoxic side effect of the anthracycline drug.

57. *(New)* The method according to Claim 56, wherein the anthracycline drug is selected from the group consisting of doxorubicin, daunorubicin, epirubicin, idarubicin and mitroxantrone.

58. *(New)* The method of Claim 56, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is selected from the group consisting of a soluble 4-1BB protein, an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L and an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

59. *(New)* The method of Claim 58, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

60. *(New)* The method of Claim 58, wherein the 4-1BB antagonist is a soluble 4-1BB protein, and further wherein the soluble 4-1BB protein is an Fc fusion protein.

61. *(New)* The method of Claim 57, wherein the anthracycline drug is doxorubicin and the 4-1BB antagonist is an antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.

62. *(New)* A method for treating cancer in a subject who has received an anthracycline drug, comprising administering to said subject a 4-1BB antagonist comprising a human antibody that specifically binds 4-1BB-L and blocks the interaction of 4-1BB and 4-1BB-L.